*Atelier du Noir Presents*

# Furenai Koibito
## (Untouchable Lover)

by matsukawa Nao

Can you love someone you can never touch?

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Special thanks to Leha for some redrawing help!

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IF YOU ENJOY THIS MANGA, PLEASE SUPPORT THE MANGAKA BY PURCHASING THE AUTHOR'S VOLUMES WHEREVER POSSIBLE!

Afternoon 4 SEASONS AWARD 2016

Spring Contest

# FINAL SELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

応募総数 ▸▸▸▸▸▸ 127本

## TSURUTA KENJI*

Picking a winner this time was quite worrying. On average, the level of the entries were very good but the winner still stood out a little. Overall, all of the drawings were extremely good (haha). Instead, this time there were many stories filled with fluff and straying off their central point. I often found myself thinking "what is this story about?" However, as there were many manga to be read, I got the impression that works that were clumsily composed but still powerful to read were left in the final selections.

## 4 SEASONS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

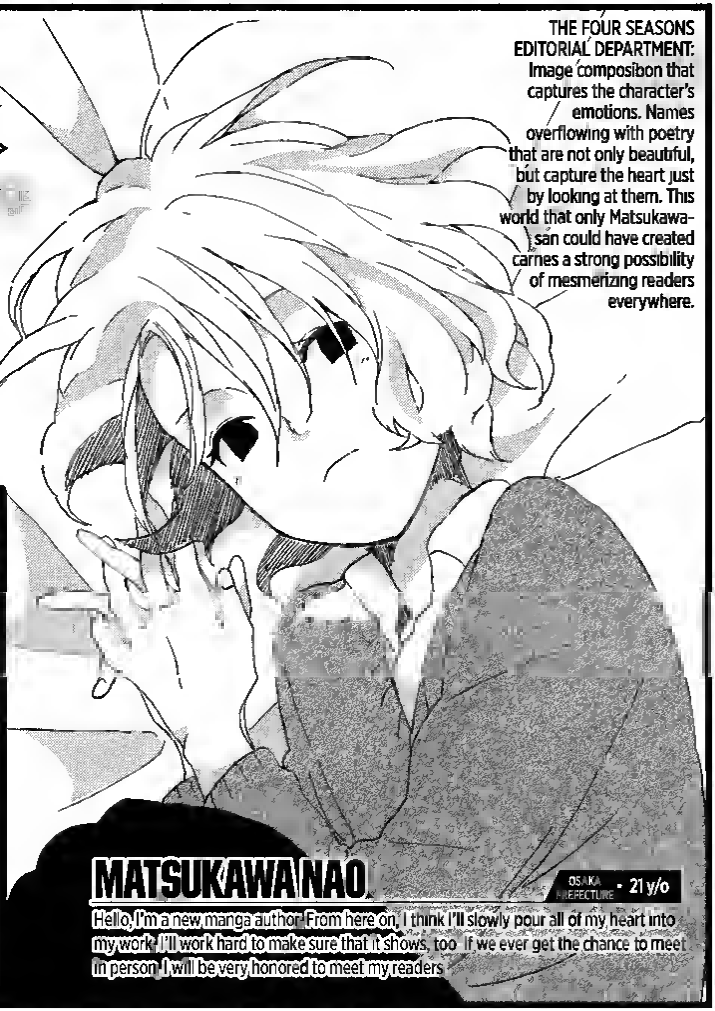
What do we expect of newcomers to the Four Seasons Contest? Although there were many things, I thought the most important was the possibility that many people would support the characters. The people in our entertainment office aren't rising stars, and we can see the people of Harajuku walking about from our windows. They may be rough around the edges and have many weaknesses, but if a lot of people say things like "I love this girl!" and "I definitely want to keep up with this person!" then we'll count it as a victory. Manga is the same. The protagonist of the first-place winner "Eternal Rabbit" was hopeless, which caused a feeling of "I don't know why, but I love this girl!" That story is in this issue, so please check it out.

## 4 SEASONS FIRST PLACE AWARD ¥1,000,000

THE FOUR SEASONS EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT: Image composition that captures the character's emotions. Names overflowing with poetry that are not only beautiful, but capture the heart just by looking at them. This world that only Matsukawa-san could have created carries a strong possibility of mesmerizing readers everywhere.

### TSURUTA KENJI:

I think this is the winner. The story was very interesting and well composed, too. The characters are incredibly good too, aren't they? It really became a manga full of persuasive power. There isn't anything left to say. If there's one thing I do dare point out, it's the appropriateness of the drawings. For example, in the scenes where rocks fall from the sky, it would have been a good idea to add in what other people were objectively seeing.

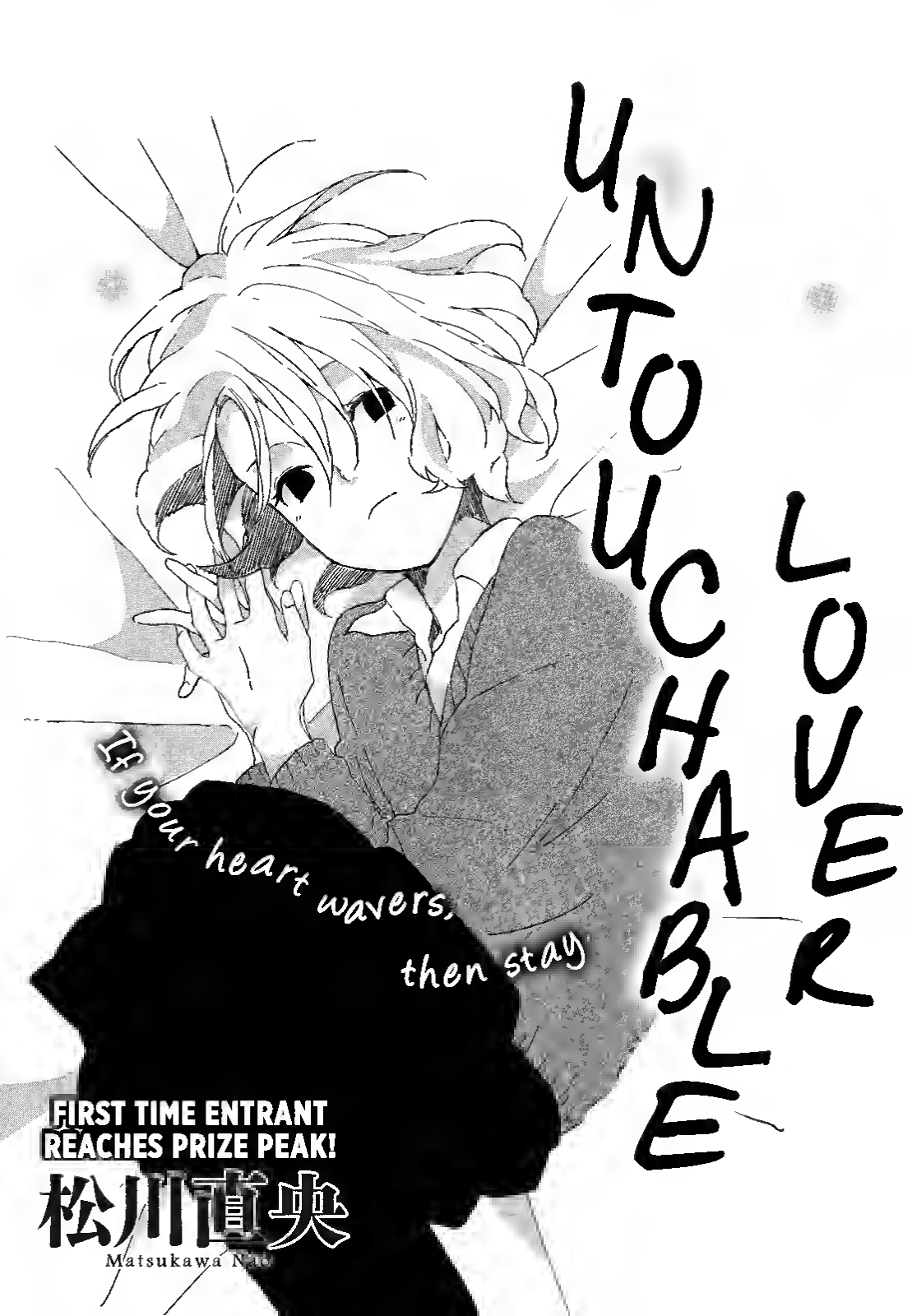


### MATSUKAWA NAO

OSAKA PREFECTURE · 21 y/o

Hello, I'm a new manga author. From here on, I think I'll slowly pour all of my heart into my work. I'll work hard to make sure that it shows, too. If we ever get the chance to meet in person, I will be very honored to meet my readers.

*T/N: A MANGAKA MOST WELL-KNOWN FOR "SPIRIT OF WONDER" AND THE ARTIST FOR "MEMORIES OF EMANON".


UNTOUCHABLE LOVER
If your heart wavers, then stay
FIRST TIME ENTRANT
REACHES PRIZE PEAK!
松川直央
Matsukawa Nao

The first thing I remember...

Is from when I was four years old.

I went to a flower viewing with my parents and grandparents sometime in April.

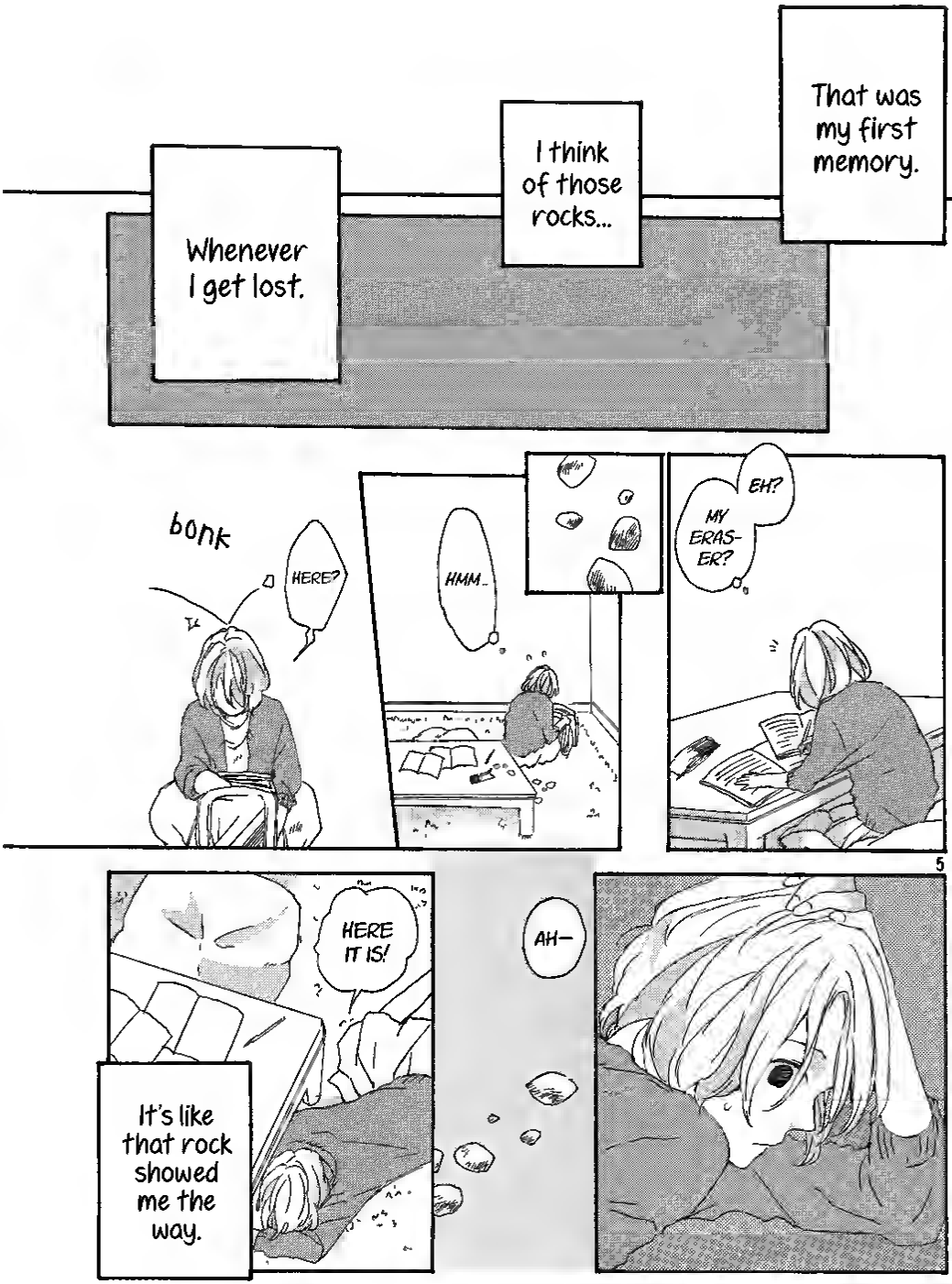
I thought that my memory was mine only.

I wasn't good at walking in crowds, and...

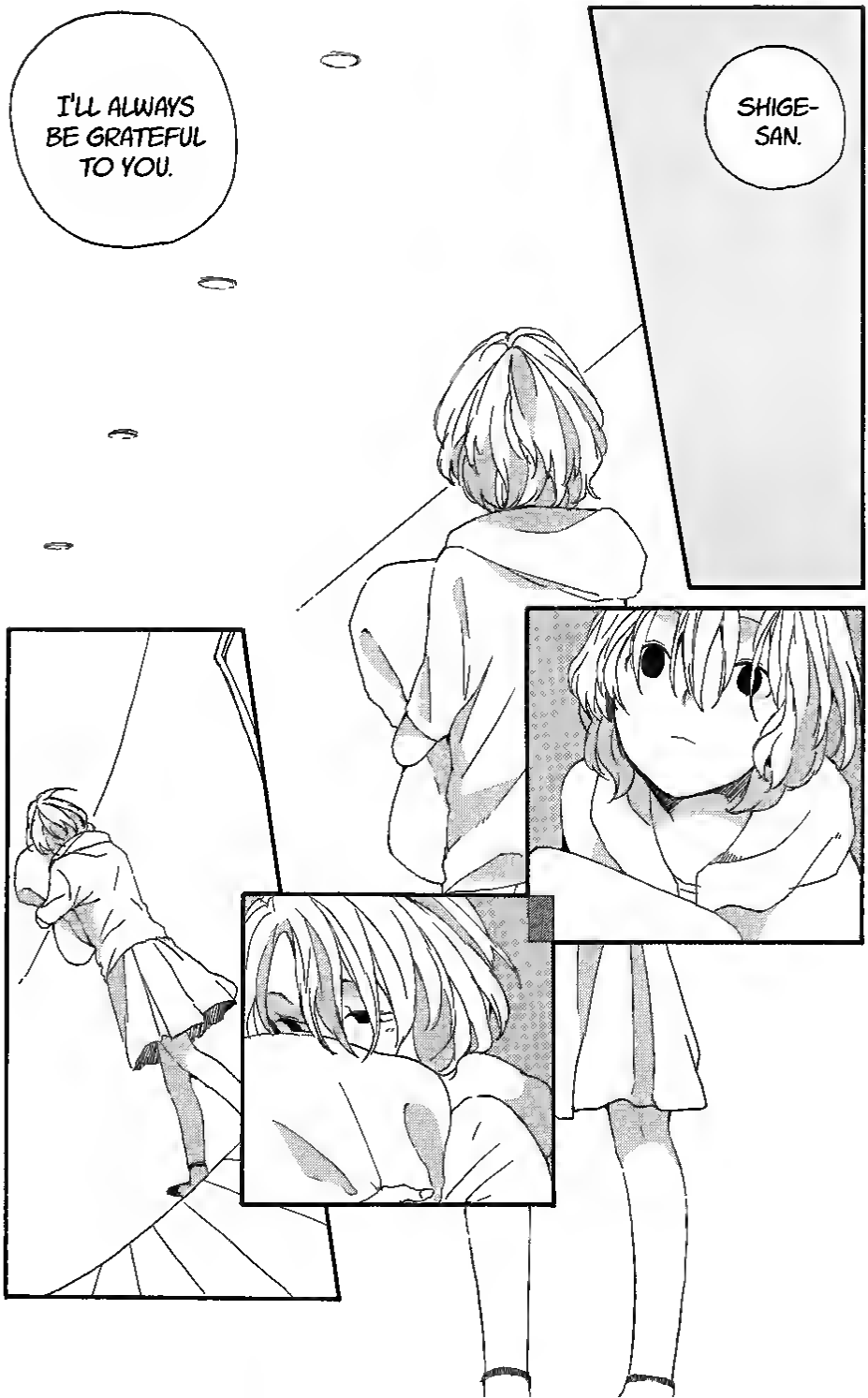
I got lost by myself and started crying

Then I noticed in front of my eyes...
ROCKS?

The familiar sight of my family.


That was my first memory.
I think of those rocks...
Whenever I get lost.
bonk
HERE?
HMM...
EH?
MY ERASER?
5
HERE IT IS!
It's like that rock showed me the way.
AH—

It showed me...
What I was looking for.
POLTER-GEIST..
EVEN THOUGH NO ONE IS THERE,
THINGS ARE MOVING ON THEIR OWN
LIKE THIS ROCK
SO WERE THOSE ROCKS ALSO..
A PSYCHIC PHENO-MENON?
IF IT'S A PSYCHIC PHENO-MENON,
THEN IS SOMEONE THERE?
PSYCHIC PHENO-MENON..


I'LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO YOU.
SHIGE-SAN.

Because Shige-san was a ghost.

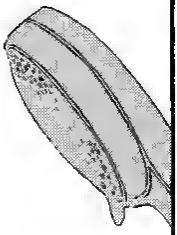
Shige-san...

Shige-san...

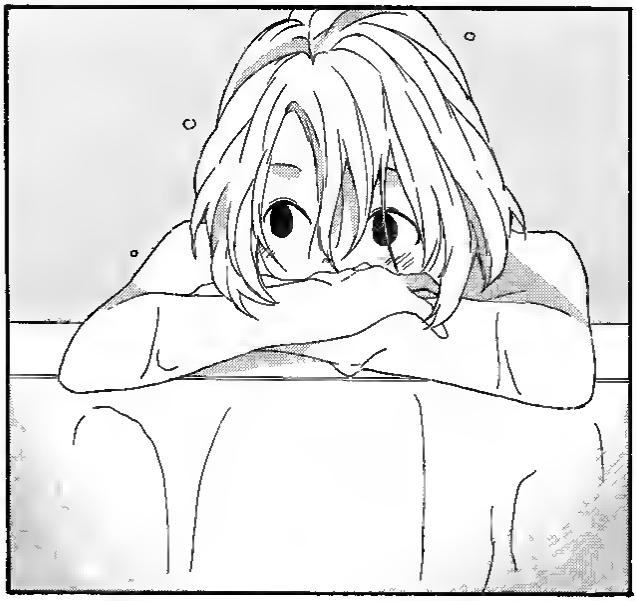
Shige-san and I...

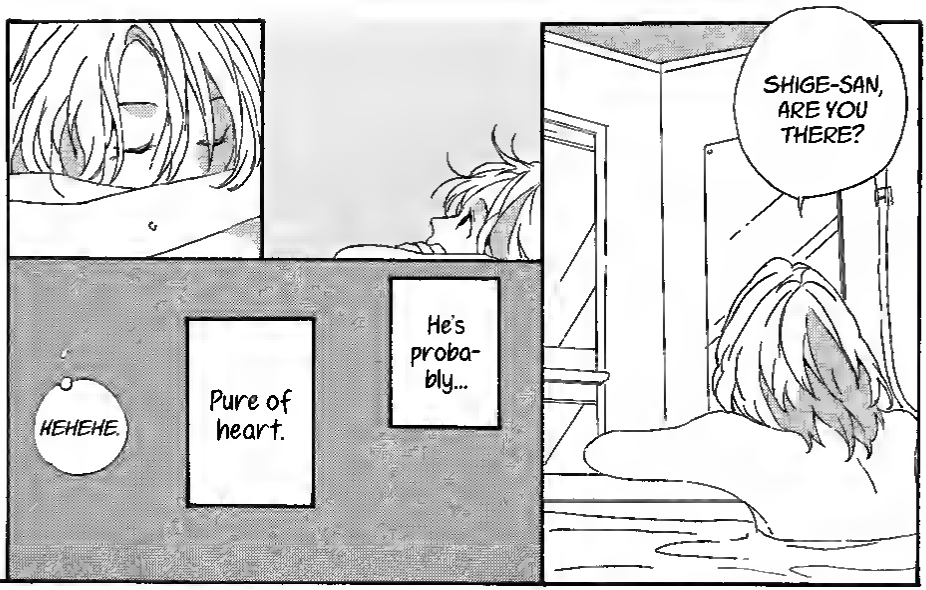
It's probably.

A man

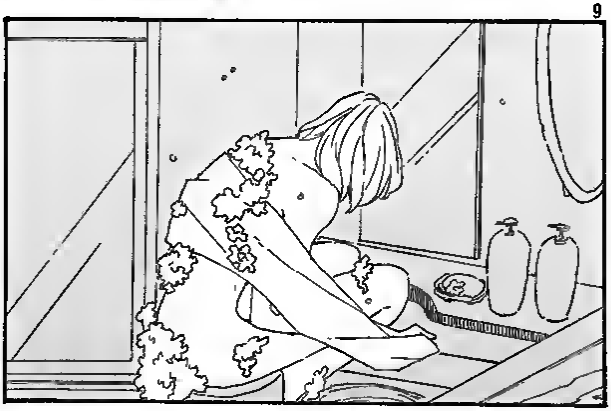


Were always together.

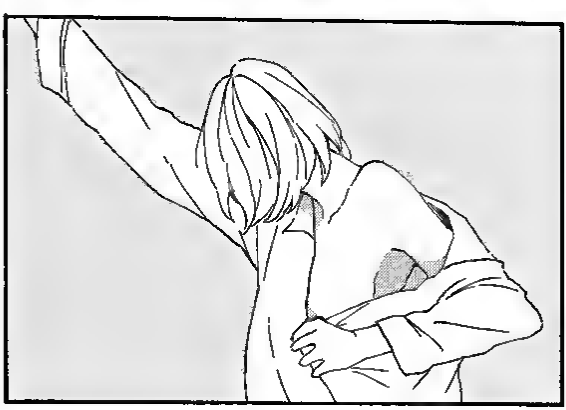






Because, whenever I'm in the bath...



Shige-san doesn't come near me

Or changing clothes...

Now...
I'll stay by your side for a while
I'm slowly starting to know...
Whether you're here with me or not.
SHIGE-SAN...
GOOD NIGHT.

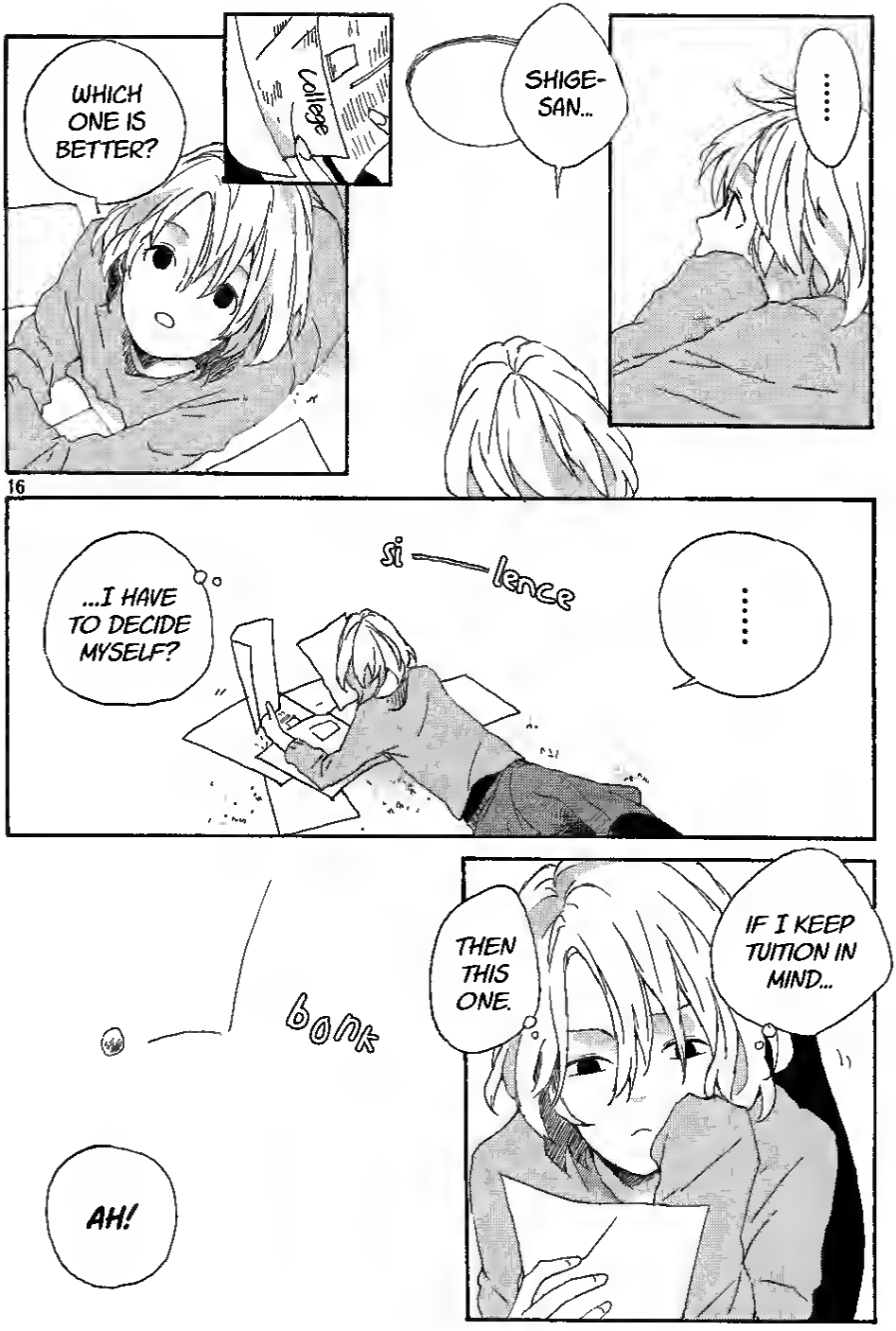
He doesn't do anything
Is giving me an affirmation
When Shige-san
Another thing I've noticed is
Boink
OOF!
Make a mistake...
IT ISN'T HERE...
It's only when I...
Shinkansen
IT'S HERE

THANK YOU,
SHIGE-SAN.
I'VE GOT IT...
Good
YOUKO—
IS IT THERE?

*T/N: CHICKEN AND EGG ON RICE.

I'LL DO IT.
SOME-DAY.
STUFF LIKE PEOPLE HOLDING HANDS
THAT SORT OF THING, IS WHAT YOU YEARN FOR, ISN'T IT?
IF I GO TO COLLEGE, THERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOMEONE GOOD THERE
IT WOULD BE NICE IF THERE WAS...
I have.
Never fallen in love before.

Was never able to fall in love.
I prob-ably...
15
Maybe I
Was born that way
roll
YEAH.


College
WHICH ONE IS BETTER?
SHIGE-SAN...
.....
16
si——lence
...I HAVE TO DECIDE MYSELF?
.....
bonk
AH!
THEN THIS ONE.
IF I KEEP TUITION IN MIND...

FSSSSH
WHAT?!

DUMP
COLLEGE
POP
YOU STARTLED ME!

LLEGE

I UNDERSTAND.

Affir-mation.

Shige-san is always near me.

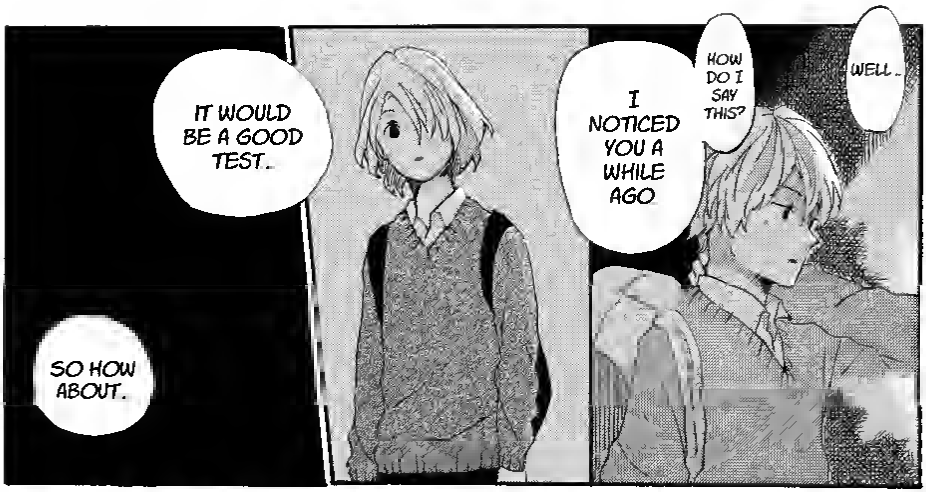
Showing me...

The way.

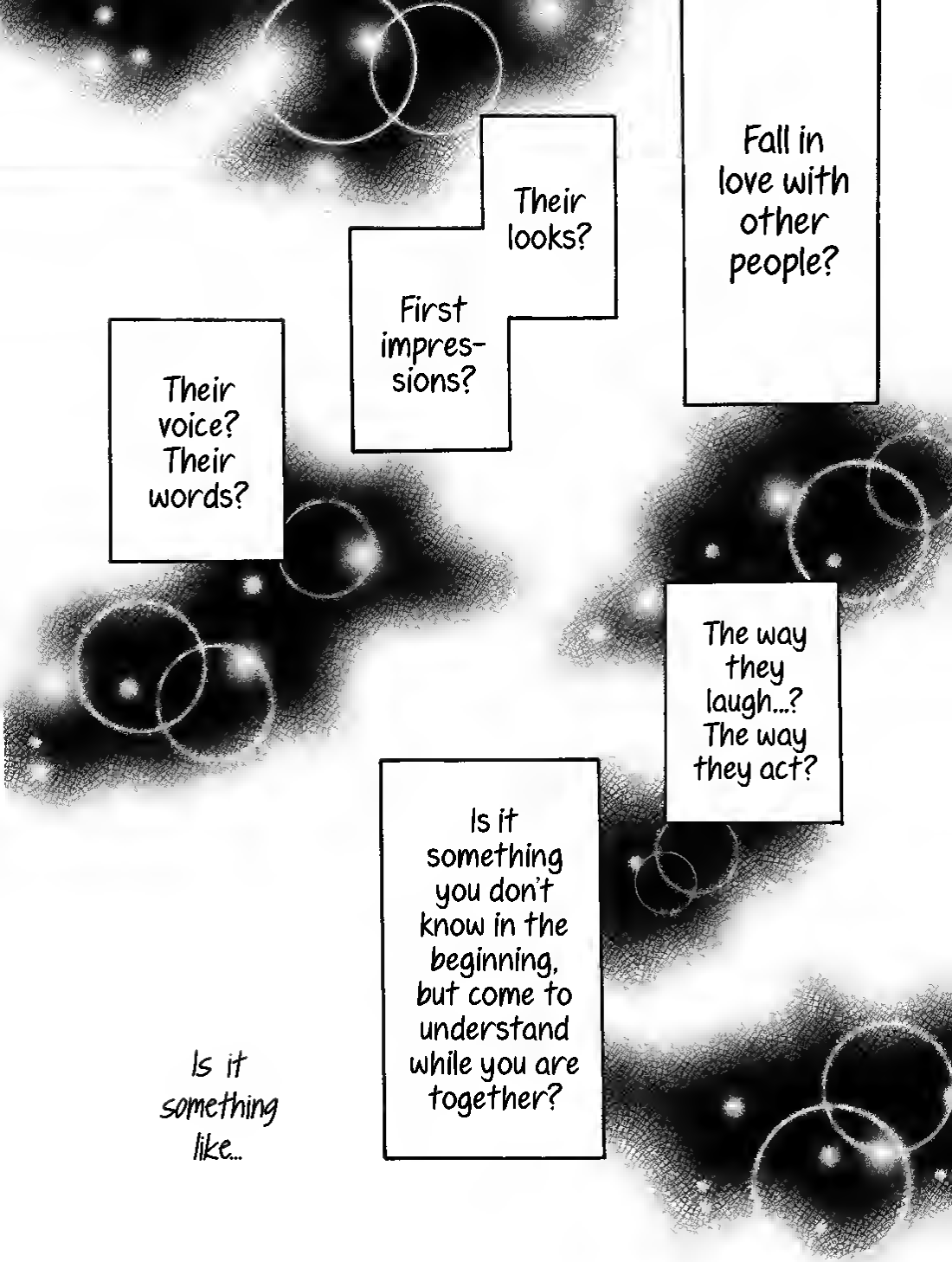
SHOULD WE GO BACK TO-GETHER?
I'LL ESCORT YOU

IT GOT DARK...
DIDN'T IT?

Um...
UH,
WE GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL. I'M HONDA FROM CLASS 2.
.....



Why do people...

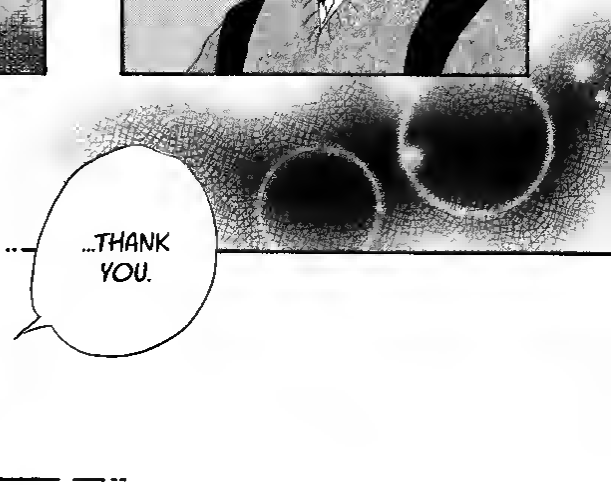

Fall in love with other people?
Their looks?
First impressions?
Their voice? Their words?
The way they laugh...? The way they act?
Is it something you don't know in the beginning, but come to understand while you are together?
Is it something like...

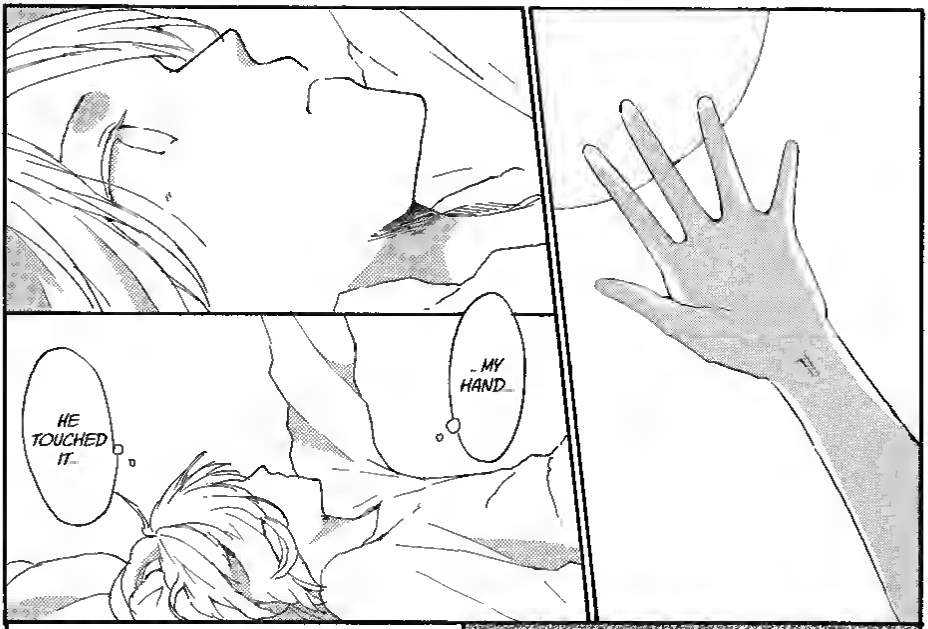
WOW, YOU'RE WORKING LATE, AREN'T YOU?
ON YOUR STUDIES?
YEAH.
THE COLLEGE I WANT TO GO TO...
IS A LITTLE DIFFICULT, SO...
YOU'RE ALWAYS THERE, AREN'T YOU?
THE STUDY ROOM,
WHERE ARE YOU TRYING FOR?
..DAIICHI
EH? YOU MUST BE SUPER SMART.

# My relationship with Shige-san?

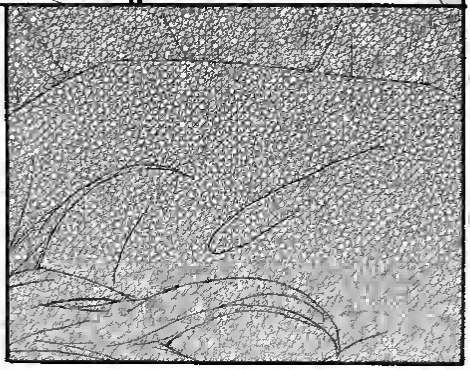
YEAH,
SO THEN..
YOU HAVE TO DO YOUR BEST.
STILL,
THAT'S REALLY GOOD
COLLEGES LIKE DAIICHI ARE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME
IF I GRADUATE, I STILL DON'T HAVE A CHANCE
I'M GLAD I TALKED TO YOU TODAY, THOUGH

I MIGHT NOT BE VERY GOOD AT STUDIES...
BUT I CAN BE YOUR BODYGUARD.


...THANK YOU.




My hand was touched a little I think...



IT'S A LITTLE WARM

!
bonk
I SHOULD TRY AND GO OUT WITH HIM, RIGHT?
SHIGE-SAN...
bonk
IT HURTS!!
IT HURTS!!
!?
IT HURTS!!
silence
ARE YOU JEALOUS?
SHIGE-SAN,

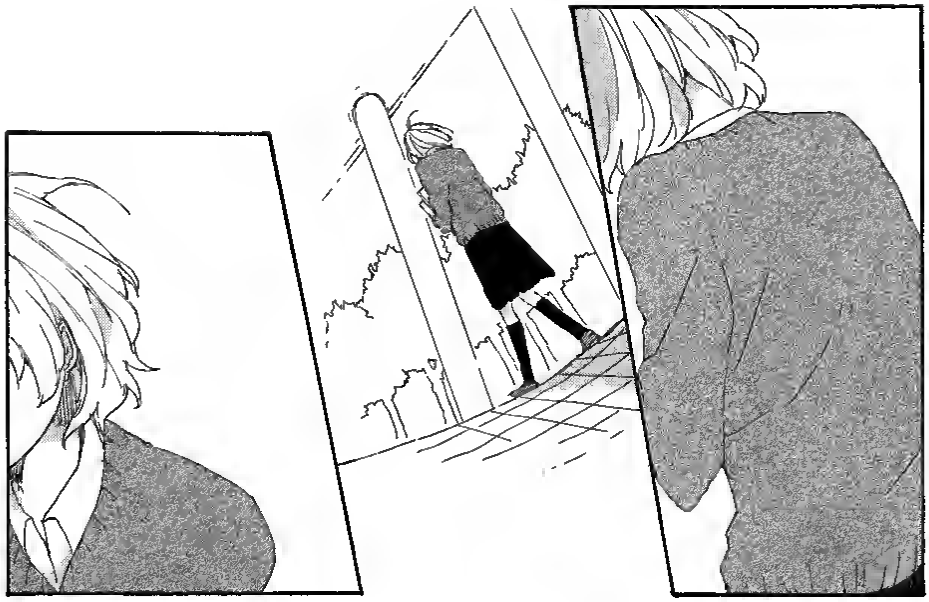
baf
Pavf
baf
HEY!
If Shige-san's reacting like this...
HEY...
YOU LOOK PALE
I hope he isn't a bad person.

.....
HERE YOU GO.
...PALE?
29
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
SORRY,
BLACK TEA...
IS IT FINE THIS HOT?
I THINK I SHOULD'VE LET IT COOL
...IT'S HOT.
I'M GLAD...
...NO.
IT'S GOOD.
IT'S FINE.
GOOD.
Bone
Bone

PREP ROOM...
PREP ROOM...
YOU LOOK GOOD, DUDE!
IT'S CUZ YOU'RE DATING YOUKO, ISN'T IT?
.....
SHE CALLS YOU "DEAR"?
"DEAR"?
DOESN'T SEEM TO WEAR MAKEUP MUCH, EITHER
SHE SEEMS QUIET
SO CUUUTE!
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUKO?
YEAH..
WHAT IS IT.. I LIKE ABOUT HER..?

SHE SEEMS A LITTLE WEIRD, DOESN'T SHE?
AND SOMETIMES SHE JUST STARES,
EVEN WHEN THERE ISN'T ANY-THING THERE.
STUFF LIKE WHEN WE'RE TALKING, SHE RESPONDS AT WEIRD TIMES...
SOMETIMES I FEEL BAD..
HEH.
IS THAT SO?

IF I DATE A GIRL THAT CUTE, IT MAKES ME LOOK GOOD, DOESN'T IT?
EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD BE GOOD TO BREAK UP...
WHAAATT?! THEN WHY ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH HER?
SHE'S KIND OF CRAZY, BUT I CAN DEAL WITH THAT
HER STYLE ISN'T BAD, EITHER...
SHE'S LIKE A TROPHY GIRL-FRIEND THEN!
I SEE...

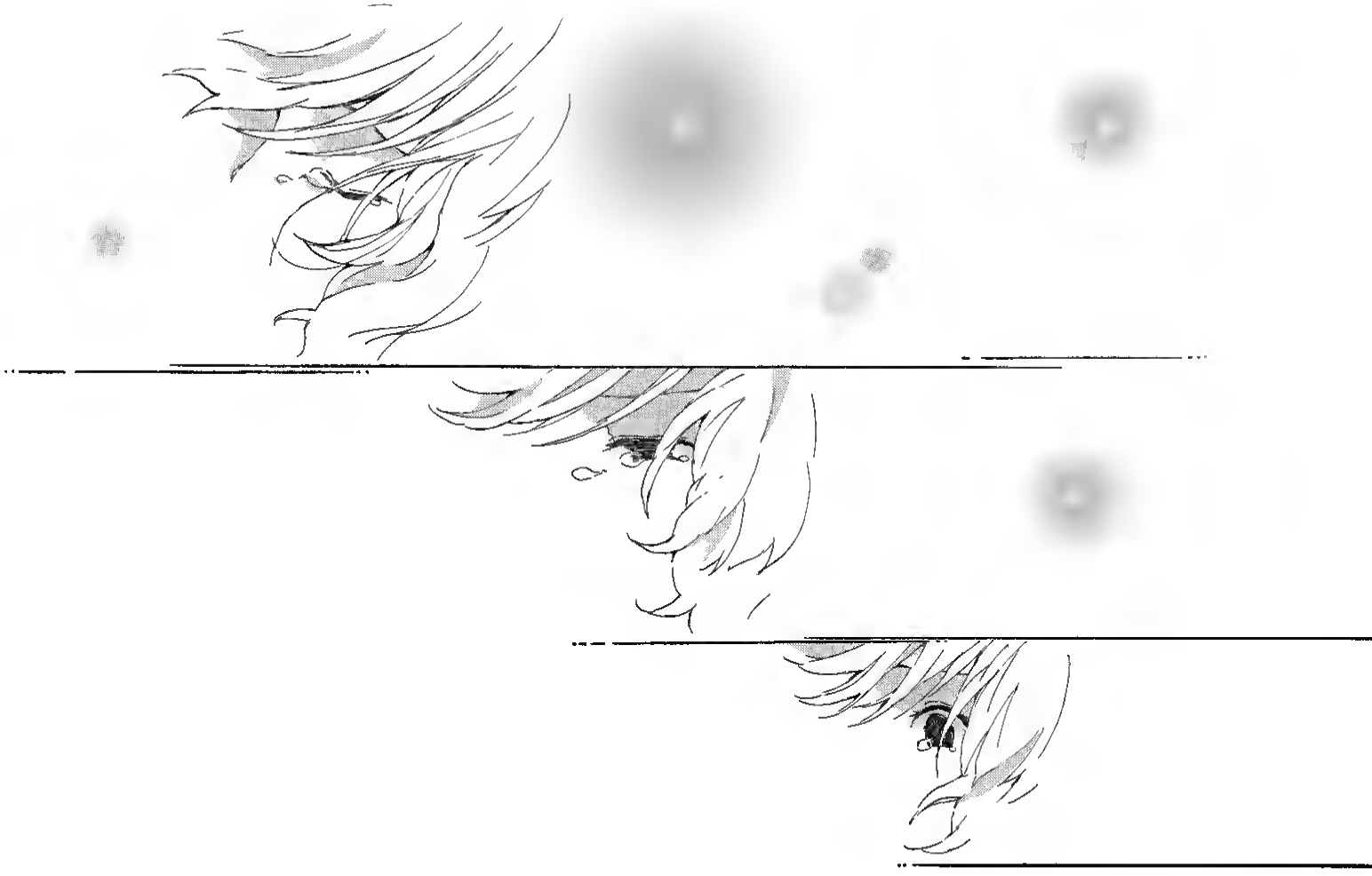


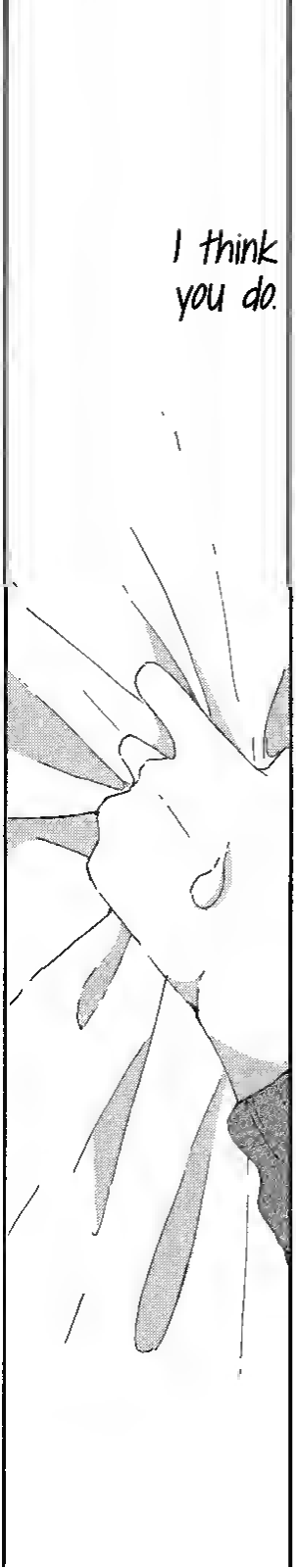
I don't
understand...

Am I pathetic?
I don't under-stand...
Am I angry?
Am I lonely?
Am I annoyed?
Am I sad?
SHIGE-SAN...

AM I...
WEIRD?
bonk
SO THEN,
IF YOU THREW A ROCK AT ME

SHIGE-SAN...
DO YOU...
LIKE ME?






It's like a yearning

Like a burning feeling that I don't understand, but

More than a touch

More than a kiss

It's simply...

This silence is

Unbelievably warm.

Connected.

We're always...

It's like...

It's much warmer than holding hands.

Surely people..

I thought.

If people have even just one person who honestly cares about them

Even if they can't hold hands..

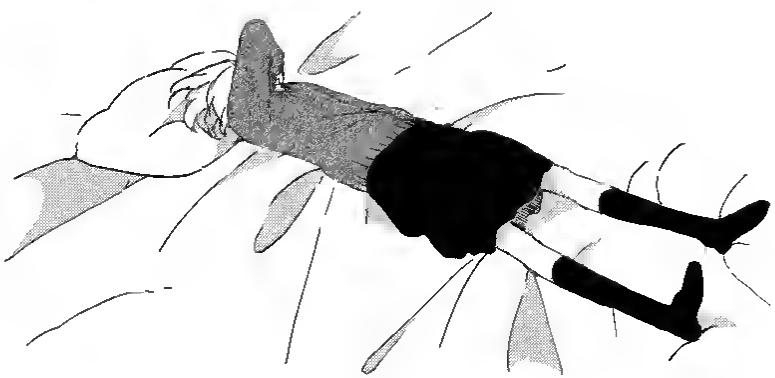
Even if they can't be connected physically..

With that much, they can keep going

With only that...

They can keep living.

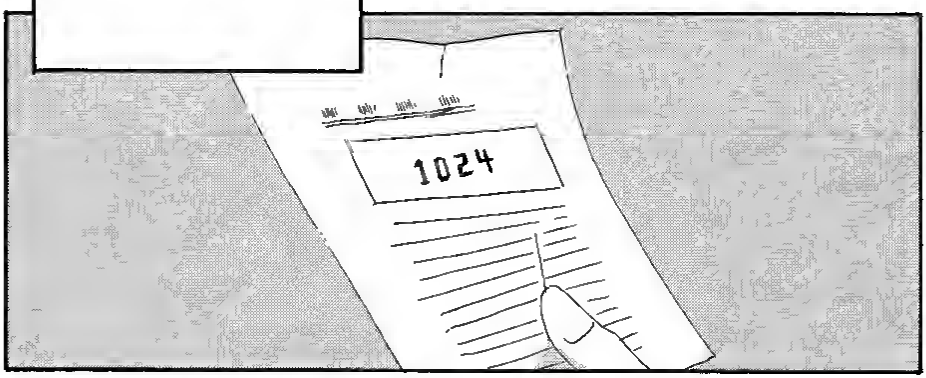
THANK YOU.



However, the heavens...

Instead of sending me a lover...

Sent me Shige-san.



BY SHIGE-SAN
THAT WAS PICKED..
THIS IS THE SCHOOL
..SHIGE-SAN..
WAS THERE ANY SIGNIFICANCE,
TO ME PASSING THIS SCHOOL'S ENTRANCE EXAM?

Your warm

Silence

Today as well

I can feel it guiding me

From behind

I SEE

SO THEN

I'LL HAVE TO TRY MY BEST.

Afternoon Four Seasons Award 2016
Spring Contest Four Seasons Grand Prize

# Untouchable Lover

**[END]**

**PLEASE ANTICIPATE ARTIST MATSUKAWA NAO'S NEXT APPEARANCE!!**